

**Print for Activity: 2929753**

**Print for Activity: 2929798**

**Print for Activity: 2929802**

**Print for Activity: 2929818**

**M/V EMPRESS OF THE NORTH - GROUNDING ON  
05/14/2007**

**MISLE ACTIVITY NUMBER: 2929818**

**ORIGINATING UNIT: SECTOR JUNEAU**

**MISLE ACTIVITY OWNER: SECTOR JUNEAU**

**MISLE ACTIVITY CONTROLLER: SECTOR JUNEAU**

**MISLE CASE NUMBER: 349045**

## **I. INCIDENT BRIEF**

On 14 May 2007 at 0128 the M/V grounded on Rocky Island, AK. Vessel was carrying 206 passenger and 75 crewmembers. Vessel immediately began to take on water. Chief Engineer reported water in the forward chain locker, voids 1-3 & crew accommodation deck. Master ordered abandon ship and all passengers were safely evacuated to responding good Sam vessels. Passengers were transferred to CGC Liberty and then transferred to the AMHS vessel Columbia where they were taken to Auke Bay, AK. Vessel was able to transit back to Auke Bay, AK and moored at the AMHS dock there. Initial damage survey was completed with hull penetrations all along the starboard side. Also, the propellers on the starboard side "z-drive" were missing. Alcohol & drug testing were completed for all on watch personnel and the Master.

Comprehensive initial investigation completed including securing physical evidence & conducting on-watch witness interviews. NTSB responded to assume lead role in investigation. Case pends.

Comprehensive underwater survey is complete. CG-2692 received from the company. Damages are currently estimated to be \$4,000,000.00.

## **II. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

### **Incident Summary**

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Incident Involved: Marine Casualty, Reportable

Level of Investigation: Formal

IMO Classification: Serious Incident

USCG Classification: Major Marine Casualty

Was this a Serious Marine Incident? Yes

Was a Marine Board Convened by Commandant? No

### **Personnel Casualty Summary**

Total Missing = 0

Total Dead = 0

Total Injured = 0

Total at Risk, Not Injured = 0

Total People at Risk = 0

Other Personnel (Not at Risk) = 281

### **Vessel(s) Status Summary**

Actual Total Loss(es) = 0

Total Constructive Loss, Salvaged = 0

Total Constructive Loss, Unsalvaged = 0

Damaged = 1

Undamaged = 0

### **Property Damage Summary/Total Damage**

Vessel(s) = \$4000000

Cargo = \$

Facility(s) = \$

Other = \$

\* Includes estimates

### **Waterway Mobility Summary**

Vessel Delays (including speed restrictions): None

### **III. ACTIONS IN RESPONSE TO THIS REPORT**

#### **Actions on Recommendations**

#### **Safety Alerts**



## IV. FINDINGS OF FACT

### Subjects of the Investigation

**Vessels.** The following vessels were subjects of this investigation. Particulars for each vessel follow.

Vessel Name:	EMPRESS OF THE NORTH
Flag:	UNITED STATES
Vessel Identification Number:	1140867
Call Sign:	WDB4791
Status:	Damaged
Role:	Involved in a Marine Casualty
Vessel Class, Type, Sub-Type:	Passenger Ship, River Cruise Vessel, General (More Than 6, Gross Tonnage < 100)
Gross Tonnage(GRT):	
Net Tonnage(NRT):	
Deadweight Tons:	
Length:	299.3
Home/Hailing Port:	
Keel Laid Date:	02/07/2002
Delivery Date:	08/07/2003
Place of Construction:	FREELAND, WA, UNITED STATES
Builder Name:	NICHOLS BROS BOAT BUILDERS INC
Propulsion:	Diesel Electric
Horsepower:	6000
Master:	
Classification Society:	AMERICAN BUREAU OF SHIPPING
Owner:	EN BOAT LLC 1071 camelback street newport beach, CA, 92660 US
Operator:	
Inspection Subchapter:	H
Most Recent Vessel Inspection Activity:	2826281, 02/17/2007 9:00:00 AM
Current Certificate of Inspection:	Issued on 02/17/2007 2:16:09 PM, by Sector Portland

**Facilities.** The following facilities were subjects of this investigation. Particulars for each facility follow.

**Parties and Organizations.** The following people and organizations were subjects of this investigation.

CACCIOTTI, MARINO RICARDO

Status:

Not at Risk

Role:

Subject of Investigation

Gender:  
Age: 22  
SSN: -----  
Birth Date: -----  
Email Address:  
Phone Number():  
Address(Home/Primary Residence): -----  
-----  
US  
Comments: 3rd Mate

**ORGAIN, DALE RAYMOND**

Status: Not at Risk  
Role: Subject of Investigation  
Gender:  
Age:  
SSN: -----  
Birth Date:  
Email Address:  
Phone Number(Phone Number): -----  
Address(Home/Primary Residence): -----  
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Comments:

**Drug and Alcohol Testing.** The following people have been determined by the Coast Guard, Law Enforcement Personnel, and/or the Marine Employer to have been directly involved in a Serious Marine Incident as defined in 46 CFR 4.03-2:

**Response Resources.** The following incident response resources were subjects of this investigation.

Resource Name: HC130H - 1700  
Resource ID: 1700  
Kind:  
Sub-Kind:  
Type:

Resource Name: HH60J - 6002  
Resource ID: 6002  
Kind: Aircraft (Helicopter)  
Sub-Kind: SAR/Law Enforcement  
Type:

Resource Name: HH60J - 6005  
Resource ID: 6005

Kind:  
Sub-Kind:  
Type:

Resource Name: HH60J - 6024  
Resource ID: 6024  
Kind: Aircraft (Helicopter)  
Sub-Kind:  
Type:

Resource Name: HH60J - 6026  
Resource ID: 6026  
Kind:  
Sub-Kind:  
Type:

Resource Name: MLB47 - 47261  
Resource ID: 47261  
Kind: Vessels  
Sub-Kind: SAR/Law Enforcement Vessel  
Type:

Resource Name: RBS - 25446  
Resource ID: 25446  
Kind: Vessels  
Sub-Kind: SAR/Law Enforcement Vessel  
Type:

Resource Name: USCGC LIBERTY  
Resource ID: WPB 110  
Kind: Vessels  
Sub-Kind: SAR/Law Enforcement Vessel  
Type:

**Other Subjects.** The following were subjects of this investigation.

**Waterway Segment(s).** The following waterway segment(s) were subjects of this investigation.

ICY STRAIT  
Role: Location  
Local Name:  
Description: ICY STRAIT, AK

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### **Incident Information**

**Location(s).**

Description  
Icy Strait: ICY STRAIT

Latitude  
58 10.4 N

Longitude  
135 03.5 W

### Sequence of Events.

05/14/2007 1:28:00 to 05/14/2007 1:28:00 (Known): Vessel grounded on Rocky Island. Island had a properly working ATON installed.

Event Type: Grounding  
Event Class: In marked channel  
Event Subclass:  
Location: Known; US Waters  
Description: Icy Strait: ICY STRAIT  
Latitude: 58 10.4 N Longitude: 135 03.5 W

### Subject(s) and Details:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Role</u>
EMPRESS OF THE NORTH	Vessel	Damaged	Involved in a Marine Casualty

### Details Filed: Grounding Details

Type of Grounding:	Hard
Type of Bottom:	Rock
Depth of Water:	
Charted:	Feet
Actual:	Feet
Recorded:	Feet
Part of Vessel Aground:	Centerline Bow
Vessel Course:	True
Vessel Speed:	Knots
Steering Functional:	Fully
Propulsion Functional:	Fully
Hazard to Navigation:	No
ATON Survey Required:	Yes
Fuel On Board:	
Cargo On Board:	

<u>Cargo Name</u>	<u>Quantity</u>
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Additional Information:

## **V. CAUSAL ANALYSIS**

### **The Initiating Event of the Incident**

**Initiating Event:**

### **Failures of Defense Against Subsequent Events in the Incident**

## **VI. REFERRAL FOR ENFORCEMENT ACTION**

The following referrals for enforcement action have been made as a result of this investigation and represent those instances where the Coast Guard has gathered evidence that indicates one or more alleged violations or offenses may have occurred. Any determinations as to whether or not one or more actual violations or offenses have occurred are documented in the appropriate Coast Guard enforcement activities.

